

hf Happenings

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the week of 22 June 2015

ZS90SARL

The ZS90SARL call sign is going to be active until 31 December 2015. To date, 12 159 contacts have been made with 4 515 confirmations according to Logbook of the World. ZS90SARL has already achieved a mixed mode DXCC and is six more confirmations away from a CW DXCC. If you would like to operate ZS90SARL, please send an e-mail to sarl90@sarl.org.za giving the dates of operation.

The Standard for photovoltaic inverters provides relief

The CISPR 11 standard with the catchy title "Industrial, scientific and medical equipment - Radio disturbance characteristics - Limits and methods of measurement" covers power electronic devices such as solar inverters. Although there were voltage limits for conducted emissions at the mains port in the past, limits for the connections to the solar cells were missing.

After a positive vote of the international standard bodies, CISPR 11 Ed.6.0 is about to appear officially. In this new version, limits finally apply (74 dBuV between 500 kHz and 30 MHz) for the DC terminals, in particular for systems up to 20 kVA in residential environments (Class B).

Through intensive work of the IARU in the standardization bodies during the last 5 years, this goal has now finally been achieved. "But the work in terms of photovoltaic does not end here," said Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE, EMC Coordinator of IARU. "The limits are currently being validated by checking the emissions of installations in a computer model. It is possible that limits will be readjusted after this validation phase. With the current limit, however, a reasona-

ble protection for shortwave reception has already been achieved."

The LX9YL Project

An International YL team will be active using the special call sign LX9YL from Eisenborn between 7 and 10 August. The team will consist of Dora, HB9EPE, Johanna, DJ5YL, Mado, F1EOY, Christine, F4GDI, Claudine, F5JER, Tina, DL5YL, Evelyne, F5RPB, and Sophie, F4DHQ.

They plan to have three stations on the air covering 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB and the digital modes (PSK31, 63, 125 and RTTY). The logs will be uploaded to Clublog as frequently as possible.

QSL via the Luxembourg QSL Bureau to RL (Radioamateurs du Luxembourg Radio League) or QSL Manager Philippe, LX2A.

For more information on the activity, visit the web sites at YL France - www.ref-union.net/yfs/en/lx9yl-en and Luxembourg Amateur Radio Society (RL) - www.rlx.lu/

NCDXF Makes Major Grant to 2016 Juan de Nova Island DXpedition

The Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) has donated \$25 000 to the Juan de Nova Island (FT4/J) DXpedition, planned for March 2016. Located off the eastern coast of Mozambique, Juan de Nova is among the Top 10 most-wanted DXCC entities. "Without major financial support from NCDXF, DXpeditions like this to challenging or rare locations would not be possible," NCDXF Vice President Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, said in announcing the grant. "Juan de Nova is a very small and very environmentally fragile area. There are strict limitations to the number of visitors and the time allowable on the island. The team's antenna



plans, pilot feedback plans and enthusiasm should make this entity available to many DXers."

Johnson said donations from Amateur Radio clubs make such DXpeditions possible.

The ZS5 Sprint

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in Kwazulu-Natal and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The Sprint will be run from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC on Sunday 5 July 2015.

The exchange for KZN stations is a RS or RST report and town name or abbreviation. For non-KZN stations, it is a RS or RST report and provincial or country abbreviation. The following frequencies must be used - CW 7 000 to 7 140 kHz and phone 7 130 to 7 190 kHz.

For KZN stations the scoring is - contacts with stations in ZS5 are worth 1 point and contacts with stations in other ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 2 points.

For non-KZN stations the scoring is - contacts with stations in ZS5 are worth 2 points and contacts with stations in own or other ZS call areas (excluding ZS5) or Southern African countries are worth 1 point.

Contacts with the Highway ARC, ZS5HAM, the Durban ARC, ZS5D, the Hibiscus Coast ARC, ZS5HAC, the Zululand ARC, ZS5ZLB, the Midlands ARC, ZS5PMB, or the Noord Natal Amateurradioklub, ZS5NAK, is worth 5 points each, only one contact per station is allowed.

Log sheets must be submitted by 13 July 2015 by e-mail to harc@harc.org.za. A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition.

African DX

Tanzania, 5H. Chas, NK8O, will go to Tanzania from approximately 1 September to 1 October, the precise dates depending on the flight schedule and other travel particulars.

June

24 to 28 – De Rust Eco Festival

25 to 29 – SARL Top Band QSO Party

26 – All schools close

27 – East Rand ARC Winter Flea Market

28 – AWA KZN Branch Open Day, Baynesfield Museum

26 to 28 – Ham Radio, Friedrichshafen, Germany

27 and 28 – Christmas in die winter, Tulbagh

30 – Your SARL membership expires

July

1 – Your SARL membership starts (if you have paid)

1 to 4 – Innibos National Arts Festival, Nelspruit

2 to 12 – Grahamstown National Arts Festival

3 and 4 – Wild Mushroom Weekend, Stellenbosch

3 to 5 – Indie Karoo Film Festival, Prince Albert

3 to 12 – Knysna Oyster Festival

4 – Durban July Classic

5 – ZS5 Sprint

11 and 12 – IARU HF Championships

11 and 12 – Franschhoek Bastille Festival

13 to 18 – Free State Arts Festival, Bloemfontein

17 – Eid-ul-Fitr

18 – SARL Winter QRP Contest

18 to 25 – Youth on the Air Camp, Italy

18 and 19 – Drakensberg Gardens MTB and Trail Running Challenge

19 – Scottburgh Classic Car Show

20 – All schools open

25 – Amateur Radio in Action, Durban

25 and 26 – RSGB Islands on the Air Contest

August

2 – CQ ZS, the SARL HF Phone Contest

9 – National Women's Day; **SARL YL Sprint**

10 – Public Holiday

15 and 16 – international Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

16 – CQ ZS, the SARL HF Digital Contest

22 – Amateur Radio in Action – Johannesburg

30 – CQ ZS, the SARL HF CW Contest

He will be in Zinga, which is between Dar es Salaam and Bagamoyo, grid KI93II. Chas has bought a Hexbeam to take along, when it arrives at his home QTH he will try to familiarise himself with it before packing it up for the flight to Africa. His contact in Africa thinks he will be able to get the 5H3DX call sign. For gear, Chas will have a KX3, PX3, KXPA100 combination. He plans to stay mostly on CW but may try some SSB, dependent

on conditions and available time to operate. He says unless there is significant improvement in 10 metre conditions, he may limit his operations to 20, 17 and 15 metres.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18
098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530
kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128
14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz



Reunion Island, TO90. Mario, FR4QT, will be active as TO90R in celebration of the 90th anniversary of REF on various dates in June, July, October and December. Current days listed are: 27 and 28 June, 11 and 12 July, 14 July, 24 and 25 October, 12 and 13 December, 19 and 20 December and 26 December. QSL via FR4QT.

Juan de Nova Dxpediton. Arrangements for our next operation to Juan de Nova Island are ongoing. We began the logistic operations by conditioning part of the equipment, which will be implemented and we finalised some partnerships to supplement our equipment by taking into consideration the imposed constraints.

Today, Juan de Nova is 6th on the ClubLog Most Wanted DXCC listing, but after all major operations planned at the end of the year/early 2016, the island should be the 3rd most wanted DXCC, just behind North Korea and Crozet!

One month after the announcement of the operation, we started to contact associations, clubs and foundations in order to help us to collect the necessary budget. This year particularly, this phase promises to be a true marathon, especially with the many other expeditions in the same time window. Right now, about a dozen sponsors already responded positively as well as sixty individual donators. We sincerely thank all these structures and their members for their gen-

erosity and their assistance that is essential in this kind of adventure.

On 12 June, the NCDXF (Northern California DX Foundation) notified to us that a major contribution of \$25 000 has been granted to our operation. For 42 years, the NCDXF has contributed to finance expeditions in the rarest regions and make possible ambitious projects. We want to sincerely thank the NCDXF, its members and contributors who make DX operations possible. This important help is a great step ahead for our team and we hope that other good surprises will follow. Now, we are far from reaching the necessary budget. The expenses this year are very important. Although we are very vigilant on each euro spent, there are costs like taxes, transport which remain incompressible and it will be necessary to support them in one way or another while trying not to cut down on the quantity of equipment that we hope to set-up.

We invite each DXer or sympathizer to visit our website and make a donation through the Paypal option. We are conscious that many of you will not hesitate to take part to the collective effort sometime during the operation or afterwards. In this kind of adventure, the major part of the expenses have to be paid before the departure; then, why wait until the last moment?

Let us remind you that for any donation higher or equal to 25\$/€, the QSL card will be automatically be sent to your home address after the operation. It is our manner of thanking you for having contributed personally to the project.

Most of the team will be at the Amateur Radio Exhibition in Friedrichshafen, Germany. We will be available to answer your questions and to take into account your remarks and suggestions.

The Juan de Nova Web page can be viewed at <http://www.juandenovadx.com>. The Northern California DX Foundation Web page can be viewed at <http://www.ncdxf.org>

Flea Markets

The Winter Market for Fleas of the East Rand Radio Club will be held from 12:00 on Saturday 27 June 2015.

Raffle tickets will be available for R30-00 a ticket to win a brand new Daiwa CN-801 cross needle SWR/Power meter valued at R2 250. With thanks to Sam's Radio Accessories. The draw will only take place on our October 2015 flea market.

Boerewors rolls and cold beverages will be available. Bring the family and come enjoy the day with us.

If you want to book a table at R30 per table, contact Judy on 079 730 2030 or e-mail to zs6erb@gmail.com

On Sunday 28 June, the Antique Wireless Association - KZN Branch is having an open day at Baynesfield Museum. There will be a display of antiques and all are invited to come along and enjoy the day with us and bring along any items you wish to display or dispose of.

Activities begin at 09:00 and directions are available on the AWA Website at www.awasa.org.za. Contact in the area is Don, ZS5DR, on 082 416 8880 for any further information.

History this week

The week starting 22 June 2015



930 - The World's oldest parliament, the Icelandic Parliament, the Alþingi (anglicised as Althing or Althingi), was established

1178 - Five Canterbury monks report something exploding on the Moon

1284 - The Pied Piper lures 130 children of Hamelin away (it actually happened)

1342 - Bilbo Baggins returns to his home at Bag End (Shire Reckoning)

1418 - The forces of Sauron make a sudden attack upon the ruins of the ancient city of Osgiliath that straddle the River Anduin. (Shire Reckoning)

1498 - The bristle toothbrush was invented in China

1509 - Henry VIII is crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey

1633 - Galileo Galilei is forced to recant that the Earth orbits Sun by the Pope (359 years later on 31 October 1992, the Vatican admits it was wrong)

1675 - Charles II establishes the Royal Greenwich Observatory in England

1762 - Russian Tsarina Catherine seizes power, declaring herself Catherine II, the sovereign ruler of Russia

1776 - The final draft of the Declaration of Independence is submitted to the Continental Congress

1797 - Charles Newbold patents the first cast-iron plough. He cannot sell it to farmers, as they fear the effects of iron on the soil!

1844 - Goodyear patents the vulcanisation of rubber

1846 - Antoine Joseph Sax patents the Saxophone

1847 - Telegraph wires link New York and Boston; The first US postage stamps go on sale in New York, the 5 c Franklin and the 10 c Washington

1867 - Lucien B Smith of Ohio patents the first barbed wire

1876 - The Battle of the Little Bighorn - the 7th Cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel (sometimes Brevet Major General) George Armstrong Custer is wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians. Custer is killed

1910 - The first airship with passengers sets afloat - the Zeppelin Deutschland

1911 - King George V crowned King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and all his realms and territories beyond the sea.

1914 - Young Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip assassinates Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria and his wife Sophie in Sarajevo

1919 - The first advanced monoplane airliner flight - a Junkers F13

1929 - The first colour TV demo held in New York City

1963 - The first demonstration of a home video recorder at the BBC Studios, London

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 8 to 15 June 2015



Next Week's Contests

Ordering South African Radio League generic QSL cards

Willem, ZS6X, says the generic QSL cards are sold in batches of 100 at a price of R50 (postage included). Do not make any deposits before confirmation of availability of cards. Deposit the amount in the South African Radio League account number 407 158 884 9 - ABSA, Branch code 632005.

Please use your call sign or initials and surname as a reference during the payments e.g. **ZS6X/WJ Weideman - QSL cards**. Send me an e-mail to zs6wwj@gmail.com with proof of payment and I will post the cards to the address as listed on the South African Radio League database.

Die QSL kaart is beskikbaar in bestellings van 100 teen R50 (posgeld ingesluit). Moet geen inbetalings maak alvorens jy vasgestel het of kaart beskikbaar is nie. Betaal die bedrag in die Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga se bank rekening; rekening nommer 407 158 884 9 - ABSA, Takkode 632005

As verwysing gebruik asseblief jou roepsein of voorletter en van, tydens die betaling b.v. **ZS6A/PA van Deventer - QSL kaart**. Stuur vir my 'n e-pos aan zs6wwj@gmail.com met bewys van betaling en ek pos die kaart na die adres op die Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga databasis.

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL DX Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC News, DxCoffee and the Islands, Castles & Portable Operations Bulletin

